

(11/26/17)

Sweetheart:

Here I am. I sent you a telegram immediately upon arriving this morning so I know that you know I am back safely. I had a rather miserable time on the sleeper as my cough became very much aggravated from the dust and kept me awake nearly all night. There was no diner on the train so I had the porter get me some sandwiches and coffee at Kalamazoo. That was all I wanted. The train arrived in Indianapolis just three hours late. I had breakfast on the train and wired you the minute I got into the Station. Then I at once brat it for the Fort. Everyone was glad to see me - especially Fish. The Candy has been very popular all day, and there is not much of



it left now. The men are all packed up and ready to go. we expect to leave here any day. Probably not before Wednesday. Major Syle doubts very much that there will be any opportunity for you to see me in the East. He has an idea that we will get on a transport at once and if so I guess we'd have little chance to see each other. However you may rest assured my darling, that I will keep you informed as fully as possible of all we intend to do, so that if you can see me, you will be there.

Fisher was delighted with the gifts Trid sent him, and I think he should be for they were surely



beautiful. It is not as cold here  
as in Grand Rapids, although no  
body is suffering from the heat.  
Fish is Officer of the Day today,  
and I will probably draw it to-  
morrow. Some of the other men of  
the outfit are here now and I  
can assure you it is a pleasure  
to be with such fine fellows. They  
are all mighty nice.

Honey dear, as long as I live  
I never will forget how brave you  
were when I left last night.  
My heart just burst with love for  
you and with pride that you  
were so brave and good. I tell  
you it is wonderful to have a  
wife like you. No one else in  
this world has. The most wonder-



ful little girl that God ever  
made, is my wife. I am so  
proud of you dear - that you  
could stand there last night  
and show all those people  
just what sort of stuff you  
were made of. Oh! how I  
love you, my darling, darling  
girl.

I had a short talk with Trud  
and I feel sure that she will  
give you no trouble at all. I  
believe she realizes just how  
much I depend on her, and  
I know that she knows I love  
her. Trud is a wonderful little  
girl and I know will be just  
as brave and good as ~~can~~ be.



This war is not a fight for men  
alone. You women have by far  
the hardest part of the fight  
God bless you. When it is all  
over won't we have a wonderful  
time? It will make up for all  
the heartaches of separation won't  
it dear?

Troops are moving out of here  
every day now. Michael is at  
Fort Riley, <sup>Kansas.</sup> with an Evacuation  
Ambulance Co. Write him there.  
Florentine + Westerman are leaving  
tomorrow for Fort Ogilthorpe.  
There are only 30 men left in the  
Companies of the M.O.T.C. Can  
you imagine how quiet it  
seems around here dear. It is



more like a big morgue than  
anything else. Major Darby is  
still here but leaves tomorrow.  
It surely is getting quiet  
around here.

Well darling, I guess I will  
close as I don't feel very  
chipper and I think it will  
do me good to lie down. I  
never enjoyed but one week  
of my life as much as the  
past, and that was when  
you met me here first, just  
after I returned from Missouri.  
Wasn't that wonderful? Oh!  
Darling how I love you. And  
we have so much to be thankful

for even in these hours of  
trial. Kiss my sweet babies.  
Give my dearest love to them  
& to Ted. With all the love  
in the world, Marie Darling,  
I am your loving Husband  
"B."

Excuse pencil,  
Fish sends his best to you and  
the kiddies